

"you read that article that said i was."

"yes," she says, "but i would have spotted it anyhow."

"okay," i say, "i'm probably closest to the sartre of 'existentialism is a humanism' but i think i put more weight on deterministic factors than he did. also, he was an atheist, whereas, for all i know, there may even be a god."

"a god?" she says.

"a god," i say.

"would you then," she nods, "call yourself an agnostic quasi-determinist existentialist?"

i need a drink. i need a drink badly, and i am going to have to leave the office to get one, so i say,

"that's it! you've got it! i'm an agnostic quasi-deterministic existentialist!"

she brightens and leaves. i lock up the office. i may be agnostic about a lot of things, but i know i have earned a drink.

#### FIFTY MILLION AMERICANS CAN BE WRONG

bobby mc ferrin is a multi-talented singer.  
i even bought my little boy  
his wyndham hills recording  
of "the elephant's child,"  
with narration by jack nicholson.  
bobby mc ferrin does all these  
incredible animal noises on it.

so why is it that  
whenever i hear bobby mc ferrin's  
spectacularly successful and pre-eminently  
lovable rendition of "DON'T WORRY;  
BE HAPPY," i want to hit him in the teeth.

— Gerald Locklin

Long Beach CA